

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-14 HA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 DOE-15 DOEE-00

SOE-02 ACDA-12 ARA-14 SAB-02 NEA-10 /127 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1207

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USNATO

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS ANKARA 2270

USEEC; USINFO FOR IOP/M, IPS, PE, IBS/PN, IEU

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TAGS: PEPR, OREP, TU, US, NATO

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF SENATOR JAVITS' VISIT

REF: ANKARA 2263 (DTG 270930Z MAR 78) (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: MEDIA EMPHASIZED SENATOR JAVITS' OPTIMISTIC REMARKS ON THE TURKISH-US DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA), HIS VIEWS ON US-TURKISH RELATIONS, AND JAVITS' ALLEGED ROLE AS "LEADER OF THE JEWISH LOBBY." SEVERAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE SENATOR'S "SUDDEN" DECISION TO VISIT TURKEY
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WAS BASED ON A WIDESPREAD CONGRESSIONAL DESIRE TO WARN THE GOT AGAINST AN OVERLY HARSH REACTION TO COMMENTS MADE BY SECRETARY VANCE; UPCOMING VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ ALSO CAST IN THIS LIGHT. END SUMMARY

2. SATURDAY, MARCH 25, PRESS COVERAGE OF MARCH 24-25 VISIT OF SENATOR JAVITS INCLUDED FRONT-PAGE STORY IN PRO-GOVERNMENT

MILLIYET. TURKISH RADIO AND TELEVISION (TRT) PROVIDED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE THROUGHOUT VISIT. REPORTING EMPHASIZED JAVITS' CALLS ON PRIMIN ECEVIT AND FONMIN OKCUN. MILLIYET INDICATED THAT THE SENATOR'S ARRIVAL WAS "UNEXPECTED". BOTH MILLIYET AND TERCUMAN FEATURED HIS REMARKS BEFORE HIS CALL ON PRIMIN ECEVIT AND QUOTE HIM AS SAYING. "I CAME HERE AT A CRITICAL PERIOD WHEN MANY THINGS CAN BE DONE IN THE INTEREST OF THE TURKISH AND AMERICAN PEOPLES TO RECONCILE OUR VIEWS. I BELIEVE THAT OUR RELATIONS WILL BE BETTER THAN IN THE PAST. I WILL TRY TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN ON THIS SUBJECT."

3. SUNDAY, MARCH 26, REPORTING IN LEFTIST CUMHURIYET HIGHLIGHTED REMARK MADE DURING PRE-DEPARTURE AIRPORT INTERVIEW: "WE MUST BE HOPEFUL ABOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE DCA BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS WELL AS BY THE SENATE." CUMHURIYET ALSO NOTES SENATOR JAVITS' REMARK THAT THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MAY NOT TAKE UP THE DCA UNTIL AFTER ACTION IS COMPLETED ON THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY, PROBABLY AT THE END OF APRIL. TRT REPORTING OF THE AIRPORT INTERVIEW EMPHASIZED JAVITS' COMMENT THAT THERE HAS BEEN "A MOST REGRETTABLE LAPSE IN THE INTIMATE RELATIONS" BETWEEN THE US AND TURKEY IN RECENT YEARS AND THE SENATOR'S HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE "EARLY ACTION IN THE UNITED STATES ON THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS WHICH TURKEY FACES." (USIS IS TRANSMITTING THE INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT (REFTEL) BY SEPTTEL.)
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4. BOTH SENSATIONAL, LARGE CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN AND SMALL, CONSERVATIVE BAYRAK MARCH 26 NOTE THAT THE SENATOR IS THE LEADER OF THE "JEWISH LOBBY." GUNAYDIN ADDS THAT IT IS RUMORED IN ANKARA THAT JEWISH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS ARE INCLINED TO CONTINUE THE EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY AND THAT SENATOR JAVITS CONVEYED A MESSAGE TO TURKEY'S LEADERSHIP PRESSING FOR IMPROVING TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.

5. IN THE ONLY MARCH 27 FOLLOW-UP, CONSERVATIVE TERCUMAN CARRIES AN AKAJANS NEWS AGENCY STORY THAT SENATOR JAVITS CAUTIONED THE GOT AGAINST TAKING TOO RIGID AN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE US. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, SENATOR JAVITS IS AMONG US LEGISLATORS SYMPATHETIC TO TURKEY WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT PRIMIN ECEVIT'S HARSH CRITICISM OF SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENT. THESE MEMBERS OF THE US CONGRESS ARE REPORTEDLY WARNING THE GOT TO BE "MORE SENSIBLE" AND "MORE PATIENT". THE UPCOMING VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ IS ALSO SAID TO BE DESIGNED TO PASS ON THIS WARNING.
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